

The shoes were covered in ants, though by the time I reached the beds most of them had been dislodged by banging the shoes together. This had also scattered Nancy's watch, earrings, necklace and other sundries placed in the shoes, but a solution for that would have to wait for dawn.

Ten minutes of mutual grooming and inspection of beds allowed us to declare an ant-free-zone, and we bedded down for another three hours of sleep.

Dawn permitted us to retrieve Nancy's trinkets and revealed that the ants had largely departed, leaving just a hundred thousand or so clinging as an intertwined ball to our garbage bags. The opportunity for sweet revenge was there! Nancy was given the honour. Kerosene was poured over the ants. The first match fizzled out. The second produced a fireball large enough to singe Nancy's hair and eyebrows. It had been petrol, not kerosene, that I had poured over the ants, most of which survived at least as well as Nancy.

Ghanaians, and not just city folk, share a deep distrust of the forest as a place of wild animals and evil spirits. Had anyone been at Kibi at 02.00 on Monday 8 March 1993, they would have been confirmed in their beliefs.

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### **Two *Dipogon subintermedius* (Magretti) (Hym.: Pompilidae) apparently developing on one spider**

I was interested to read Steve Garland's note (*antea*: 141), describing the behaviour of *Dipogon subintermedius* in hunting its regular (cf. Day, 1988: *Handbks. Ident. Br. Insects* 6(4): 31) spider prey *Segestia senoculata* (L.). It prompts me to record that on 8.iv.1997 I collected two very unevenly sized cocoons of *D. subintermedius*, positioned outward of the remains of a single large spider that seems compatible with *S. senoculata*, from one of several characteristic emergence holes of the large buprestid beetle *Agriilus pannonicus* (Piller & Mitterpacher) seen in the bark of a standing mature *Quercus robur* at Silwood Park, Ascot, Berkshire. Because the cocoons were immediately recognised as probably those of a pompilid (which normally develop in strict one-to-one relation to their spider prey), I looked carefully for the remains of a second spider but could find nothing. The conclusion that on this occasion two wasps had, for some unknown reason, developed on a single spider was strengthened by the abnormally small size (3mm long) of the male *D. subintermedius* that emerged on 11.v.1997, to be followed by a more normally-sized female (7mm long) eight days later.— MARK R. SHAW, National Museums of Scotland, Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF.